debts transferred to RGPPL and for the loan taken for revival works (from Power Finance Corporation) the rate is likely to be in excess of 10% per annum. The annual outgo of interest will depend upon the date of commercial operation of Power Blocks, loan drawn etc. As such, the annual interest outgo can only be determined after above variables are firmed up.

Increase in plant load factor of power plants

†2503. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to stater

(a) whether Government have found out possibilities of increasing production of power by increasing plant load factor of power generation projects in the country;

(b) if so, number of such projects where such plant load factor can be increased as they are generating less power than their installed plant load factor; and

(c) the assessment of additional power produced after increasing plant load factor of such projects as per fixed norms?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) An Action Plan has been drawn to improve the Plant Load Factor (PLF) of existing thermal power stations in the country which are running at low PLF, to the level of National Average under "Partnership in Excellence" (PIE) Programme. Under this programme 26 low performing thermal Stations (having PLF below 60%) have been identified to improve their performance through improved Operation & Maintenance (O&M) practices, comprehensive overhauling etc. Out of these 26 Thermal Stations, revival of 4 Thermal Stations were not found economically viable.

(c) The anticipated benefits after completion of "PIE" programme may be of the order of 12000 MU/annum.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.